

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MELBOU 00561 160037Z

12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIL-01 LAB-06 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 DRC-01 /034 W

----- 034921

R 150700Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2156

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MELBOURNE 0561

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, AS

SUBJ: ROBERT J. HAWKE: PROFILE

REF: STATE 96584

1. QUICK SEARCH REVWALS NO OFFICIAL IN DEPTH
BIODATA FILED ON ROBERT HAWKE. IN RESPONSE REFTEL
LABATT SEND FOLLOWING FACTS AND OBSERVATIONS. ALL
FOLLOWING BASED ON WIDELY KNOWN FACTS AND WIDELY
HELD OPINION, AND MAY BE REPEATED TO J.W. WEBB FOR
USE BY C.W.A. WITH USUAL CAVEAT THAT SOURCE BE PROTECTED.

2. ROBERT HAWKE, BORN 1929 IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.
COMES FROM RELATIVELY UNDISTINGUISHED NON
WORKER BACKGROUND, EXCEPT UNCCLE WHO LABOR PREMIER
OF WEST AUSTRALIA 1959-66. HAWKE'S FATHER WAS
CONGREGATIONALIST MINISTER, NOW RETIRED, WHICH
MAY ACCOUNT FOR HAWKE'S "CHRISTIAN TESTAMENT"
CAREER WHILE UNDERGRADUATE AT UNIVERSITY OF WEST
AUSTRALIA, FROM WHICH HE RECEIVED B.A. (ECON) HONORS
AND LLB IN 1949. A RHODES SCHOLAR AT OXFORD IN
1950-1951, HAWKE IS REMEMBERED AS RUTHLESS DEBATER
AND FAST DRINKER(HIS RECORD OF 12 SECONDS FOR
DOWNING 2 PINTS OF BITTER TOPPLED FROM GUINNESS BOOK
OF RECORDS ONLY THIS YEAR. HAWKE IN RECENT YEARS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MELBOU 00561 160037Z

HAS SACRIFICED SPEED FOR DISTANCE IN THIS FIELD).

3. RETURNING TO AUSTRALIA, HAWKE ATTRACTED ATTENTION OF ALBERT MONK, PRESIDENT OF ACTU IN 1958, WHEN HE WAS EMPLOYED THERE AS DIRECTOR RESEARCH. LATER SERVED ORGANIZATION THERE AS DIRECTOR RESEARCH. LATER SERVED ORGANIZATION AS LAY ADVOCATE IN SERIES OF BRILLIANT TRADE UNION ACTIONS BEFORE FEDERAL ARBITRATION COMMISSION HEARINGS. HAWKE SUCCEEDED AS PRESIDENT IN 1970, AFTER BITTER FACTIONAL FIGHT IN WHICH HE HAD SUPPORT OF TOTAL LEFT WING. SINCE THEN HAWKE HAS EARNED DEEP ENMITY OF COMMUNISTS BY HIS EFFORTS TO DISASSOCIATE. THIS MATCHED BY DEEP DISTRUST OF ULTRA RIGHT FOR WHOM HE STILL EXPRESSES CONTEMPT. PRESENT SUPPORT IS IN CENTER, WITH EQUATTES WITH UAW, FOR INSTANCE, IN AMERICAN TERMS.

4. ALWAYS POLITICAL CREATURE, HAWKE OBVIOUSLY ENJOYS CONSTANT SPECULATION ABOUT HIS FUTURE. ELECTED FEDERAL PRESIDENT OF AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY IN 1973, HAWKE HAS WORN TWO HATS WITH VARYING SUCCESS. USUAL CONFLICT IN OBJECTIVES, BETWEEN LABOR POLITICAL AND LABOR UNION GROUPS, HAS ARISEN IN AUSTRALIA. HAWKE IS OFTEN IN DISPUTE WITH PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM, SOMETIMES PUBLICLY. AS BIG S CONTINENT IS, IT CAN'T CONTAIN TWO SUPER EGOCENTRICS LIKE THESE, AND THEIR DIFFERENCES IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS FREQUENTLY ENTERTAIN PUBLIC. MOST RECENT WAS OVER MID EAST "EVEN HANDED" POLICY OF WHITLAM WHICH STILL INFURIATES PRO ISRAEL HAWKE. HE, WITH GEORGE MEANY, ONE OF SMALL NUMBER "WESTERN" TRADE UNION LEADERS WHO SUPPORT ISRAEL STEADFASTLY.

5. HAWKE AS SPEAKER CAN BE CHARACTERIZED AS BRIGHT, STIMULATING, ACERBIC. (IN THIS CONNECTION, LABATT SUGGESTS WA THOUGHTS ON BROAD SPEECH TOPIC MIGHT BE USEFUL). HE HAS CABLED (MAY 14) NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF INVITATION TO SPEAK AT JUNE CONVENTION BUT CANNOT FINALLY ACCEPT UNTIL NEXT WEEK.
BROWN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ITINERARY, BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MELBOU00561
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740120-0614
From: MELBOURNE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740546/aaaaboul.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 96584
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROBERT J. HAWKE: PROFILE
TAGS: ELAB, AS, US, (HAWKE, ROBERT J)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005